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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 13 April 1953

SUBJECT Production of Acid-Proof Tank at Eisenhuettenwerk,
25X1C Thale

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1. SAC Marten Eisenhuettenwerk (ME) Thale has been making large acid-proof tanks for the USSR since before July 1948. These are enamelled on the inside. The enamel contains chrome oxide, borax, and feldspar; tin oxide was formerly used instead of chrome oxide, but it is no longer available in East Germany. The enamel is applied in three layers. Works are platted with soft gold (eichgold), about 100 grams of gold being used each month. The steel plates forming the tanks may not contain more than 0.10 percent carbon and 0.05 percent sulphur.
2. The laboratory associated with the Container and Apparatus Construction Division at Thale takes samplings of each lot of enamel as made up for each tank. These samplings are tested at the lab with solutions of 5% hydrochloric acid and again with 5% sulphuric acid, in accordance with written instructions supplied by the Soviet plant management.
3. ME employs about 4,000 workers. The plant is broken down into the following divisions:

Steel Works
 Block-rolling Works
 Rolling Mills I and II
 Cold-Rolling Mill
 Iron Foundry
 Pressing Mill
 Enamelling Plant
 Container and Apparatus Construction Works

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